Coverage of DD/AIR Network

1892. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:
SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to cover all the remote areas under KU Band to widen the area of DD and AIR;

(b) if so, the proposed areas that are going to be covered in the country;

(c) the areas, that are going to be covered in Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) the total digital centres in the country, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (c) Prasar Bharati has informed that though the entire country is covered by Doordarshan in satellite mode, through reception by appropriate dish antenna. A number of transmitter projects are presently under implementation in various parts of the country which are expected to increase terrestrial TV/AIR coverage in the next 3 years to 92% and 99.3% of population and 81% and 91.8% of area respectively. To cover the remaining uncovered areas including far-flung areas, the Tenth Plan proposals of Doordarshan include, *inter-alia*, schemes for TV coverage with multi-channel bouquet in free-to-air mode, in Ku-band, through satellite distribution system. The scheme is yet to be approved by the competent authority.

(d) Digitalisation of studio equipment is being taken up in phased manner. In addition, four digital terrestrial transmitters, one each at Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai have been set up for experimental service and test transmission is being carried out.

Guidelines for FDI in Non-News Segments

1893. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are finalizing guidelines for FDI in non-news segments;